

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 INSE-00
SCA-01 VO-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 /053 W
-----063998 060249Z /72

R 060149Z JUL 77
FM AMCONGEN HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5588
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY LISBON
USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF
SUBJ: CONDITIONAL ENTRY PROGRAM: HONG KONG SIT REP

REF: STATE 153659

1. RECENT ARRIVALS TO MACAO (23) AND HONG KONG (19) HAVE BROUGHT BOAT-CASE POPULATION IN OUR CONSULAR DISTRICT TO 250. REFUGEES CONTINUE TO ARRIVE IN SMALL BOATS DESPITE UNSETTLED WEATHER CONDITIONS IN SOUTH CHINA SEA. (HONG KONG NOW ON SECOND TYPHOON ALERT OF THIS SEASON.)

2. DUTCH SHIP LIDER KIRK, WHICH ARRIVED 7/4 WITH 13 REFUGEES NOW HOLDS DISTINCTION OF BEING FIRST SHIP TO EFFECT SECOND SEA RESCUE OF I-C REFUGEES, PICKING UP THE GROUP FROM SMALL BOAT ONLY 50 MILES FROM HONG KONG.

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3. UNHCR REP SAMPATKUMAR REACHED AGREEMENT WITH MACAO GOVT 7/1 RE CARE OF REFUGEES PRESENTLY THERE AND FUTURE ARRIVALS.

5. GOM HAS ISSUED GENERAL APPEAL FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE IN RESETTLING REFUGEES. AS REFUGEES IN MACAO NOT PHYSICALLY PRESENT H.K. AND THEREFORE INELIGIBLE

CONSIDERATION UNDER 203(A)(7), WE WILL SEND CONOFF AND INS OFFICER TO MACAO FOR PRE-SCREENING AND PROCESS APPLICATIONS OF THOSE PERSONS WHO WISH TO GO TO U.S. AND APPEAR ELIGIBLE MUCH THE SAME AS REFUGEES ARRIVING IN OTHER SEA COUNTRIES.

5. ALTHOUGH HONG KONG AUTHORITIES STILL A BIT UNEASY OVER RAPID INCREASE IN REFUGEE POPULATION HERE IN PAST MONTH, FEARS OF REAL CRISIS, ENGENDERED BY WILD LOCAL PRESS REPORTS THAT FLOTILLA OF BOATS CARRYING 5,000 REFUGEES ENROUTE TO HONG KONG HAVE PROVED BASELESS AS AIR, SEA SEARCH OF WATERS SOUTH OF HONG KONG TURNED UP NO SIGHTINGS OF REFUGEE BOATS. HKG CONCERN FURTHER ASSUAGED BY FACT INS/HK HAS MOVED OUT FIRST THREE REFUGEE GROUPS (26 PERSONS) THAT HAVE ARRIVED HERE SINCE APRIL 29. ANOTHER NINE FROM FOURTH GROUP DOCUMENTED AND AWAITING TRANSPORTATION.

6. THESE DEVELOPMENTS, PLUS ASSURANCES THAT HOUSING WOULD BE AVAILABLE, HAVE RESULTED IN HKG ALLOWING, ON AD HOC BASIS, INCREASED NUMBERS OF TRANSITTEES CONSIDERABLY OVER 60 PERSON LIMIT ON 2 OCCASIONS IN PAST 10 DAYS. WITH RETURN OF HK IMMIGRATION DIRECTOR ROLANDS IN LATE JULY, WE EXPECT TO OBTAIN PERMANENT AUTHORITY FOR MOVING GROUPS UP TO 100 PERSONS THRU HONG KONG IN ORDER TO MEET PEAK LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PERIOD OF REFUGEE MOVEMENT OUT OF SEA EXPECTED 8/15 - 9/30. HKG COOPERATION WILL DEPEND OF COURSE ON CONTINUED ONWARD MOVEMENT OF REFUGEES PRESENTLY IN COLONY AND NO DRAMATIC INCREASE IN REFUGEE INFLOW HERE AS PRESS SEEMS BENT ON RUMORING. CROSS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, SEA RESCUES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977HONGK07712
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770238-1256
Format: TEL
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770789/aaaaczaf.tel
Line Count: 100
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5fbef370-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ORM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 153659
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1955279
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONDITIONAL ENTRY PROGRAM: HONG KONG SIT REP
TAGS: SREF, HK, VM
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5fbef370-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009